PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2015 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-92-2015

Draft No.: 2

Committee: PLANNING, ZONING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Date: October 13, 2015

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable as amended, 5-0 (In favor: Council Members Harrison, Davis, Glaros, Taveras, and Toles)

Council staff summarized the purpose of CB-92-2015 and informed the committee of written referral comments that were received. The legislation amends the Zoning Ordinance concerning tobacco shop and electronic cigarette shop uses in the M-U-TC (Mixed Use Town Center) Zone.

Council Member Toles, the bill's sponsor, requested the committee's support of the bill to assist with regulating tobacco shops in the County due to the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement's (DPIE) concern that the locations of these uses in the County have been increasing.

The Planning Board took no position on CB-92-2015. Susan Hubbard, Bill Edelen, and Ruby Sherrod, representing DPIE, testified in support of the legislation as a means to regulate these uses expeditiously. The DPIE representatives and Council's Zoning and Legislative Counsel responded to Council Members' questions concerning the current "specialty shop" use provided in the Zoning Ordinance and if CB-92-2015 is adequate in addressing the types of uses that could be included in this classification.

The Committee reviewed a Proposed Draft-2 (DR-2) prepared at the bill sponsor's request to include definitions for "Electronic Cigarette Shop" and "Tobacco Shop" and the Commercial Zone Table of Uses, to make amendments to the table related to these uses, to include approval criteria for a Special Exception within a new Section 27-415.01, and to provide an amortization period in Section 3 of the bill.

The Committee voted favorable including the amendments in Proposed DR-2.